(c) whether the District Educational Officers and Deputy Inspectors are qualified to inspect these classes and if not, what provision has been made for such inspection ;

(d) the number of qualified instructors of such classes and how many of them have been trained at Serampore, how many at Madras and how many are unqualified ; and

(e) whether the Government propose to consider the question of appointing proper inspectors or supervisors of such classes ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the statements on pages 68 to 75 and 84 to 97 of Volume II of the Report on Public Instruction for 1927–28.

(c) & (e) No. Manual training classes are inspected by the Adviser to Government on Manual Training.

(d) The information is not available.

Purchase of books by public libraries out of Government grant.

* 1680 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that when public libraries have to purchase books out of Government grant the Government have ordered that all the books have to be approved by the District Educational Officer ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the District Educational Officers have been compelling the libraries to purchase only books approved by the Text Book Committee and thus preventing the libraries from going for up-to-date books with good reputation available in the market ; and

(c) whether the Government in allotting grants propose to give complete freedom to the libraries to purchase any books they like provided they are not proscribed ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) No.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" With reference to the answer to clause (a), may I know whether Government have given any instructions to the Educational officers as to what books they should approve of and what to reject ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No such instructions have been issued."

Medical inspection of girls in secondary schools.

* 1681 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether medical inspection of girls reading in secondary schools is optional at present ; and

(b) whether the Government propose to make it compulsory and, if not, why not ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The feasibility of making it compulsory is being examined.

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Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know whether medical inspection of girls will be made compulsory in the coming year in case it is found feasible ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Not in the coming year; the proposals are under consideration."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether they follow up their reports by further action ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" When the inspection reports are received they are communicated to the parents."

Opening of girls' schools in South Kanara.

* 1682 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of girls' schools have been opened in South Kanara and other districts either in a portion of school buildings used for boys or in their close neighbourhood ; and

(b) whether the Government have considered how they could avoid payment of double grants in such cases ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to get the necessary information on this matter ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Yes, Sir. We have asked the Director of Public Instruction for it."

Vocational schools in the Presidency.

* 1683 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many vocational schools there are in this province ;
(b) where they are situated ;
(c) the strength of each ;
(d) which of them are under private management ;
(e) whether any grants are given and if so, how much for each ;
(f) whether any schools were started during the current year ; and
(g) the nature of vocational training in each school ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the Annual Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency, particularly the statistics under the head 'Special Education' in Volume II and the subsidiary tables appended to the volume.

Local Boards

Renewal of the lease of the steamer 'Nell' by the West Godavari District Board.

* 1684 Q.—Mr. J. Bheemayya : With reference to the answer given to the supplementary question to question No. 483 answered on 23rd March 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have called for an explanation from the President, District Board, West Godavari, for the renewal of the lease of the District Board steamer 'Nell' without stipulating the payment of any money to the District Board ;